

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The applicant has amended the following:

Claims: 7, 9, 17-18, 20, 28-29, 31, 34, 36 and 38 have been amended.

Claims: 4, 6, 10-11, 15, 21-22, 26, 32-33, 35, 37 and 39 have
not been amended.

Claims: 1-3, 5, 8, 12-14, 16, 19, 23-25, 27 and 30 have been
cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 4, 6-7, 9-11, 15, 17-18, 20-22, 26, 28-29 and 31-39 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The applicant's independent claims disclose, *inter alia*, a method, computer program product comprising a tangible medium with computer readable code embodied thereon and apparatus for facilitating messaging between a mobile device and a sender, the method comprising steps of: providing a plurality of reserved routing codes for exchanging messages between senders and mobile devices; in response to receiving a message from the sender directed to the mobile device, temporarily associating one of the routing codes with the sender, said associating of said routing

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code persisting until reassignment of said routing code including the temporarily associated routing code in a reply message as a reply address; and transmitting the reply message with the included temporarily associated routing code to the mobile device; the method further comprising the steps of: composing a message for the sender at said mobile device, said message including at least said sender's personal identifier in body of said message; sending said message to a routing code assigned to an 'unlisted' function on said mobile device; receiving said message at an instant messaging system; capturing said sender's personal identifier by said instant messaging system; temporarily assigning a routing code from said plurality of reserved routing codes to said sender's personal identifier by said instant messaging system, said assigning of said routing code persisting until reassignment of said routing code; sending said message to said sender; and returning notice of said assignment to said mobile device.

4. The following are details of the closest prior arts of record found:

Holmes discloses a system and process for allowing wireless messaging comprising a gateway having a pool of available temporary MSISDN (reserved routing codes) which assigns and creates a new, temporary and unique reply MSISDN number associated with the message before sending the message and the reply MSISDN number onto the mobile phone for the life of the message and saves the originating address with the temporary MSISDN so that when the reply comes back from the mobile phone, the destination address is matched to the sender thereby allowing the

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mobile phone to reply to messages without knowing the address of the original sender.

In addition, Holmes discloses the mobile device sending a message to the internet address of a user wherein the mobile device uses a special mail relay MSISDN used for internet mail only to send the message wherein the internet address of the recipient of the message is specified in the body of the message and wherein the gateway obtains the internet address and sends the message to the recipient user.

Ogle discloses a system and method for enabling an instant messaging system (IMS) to use alternative message delivery mechanisms.

5. After a thorough search and further examination, claims 4, 6-7, 9-11, 15, 17-18, 20-22, 26, 28-29 and 31-39 are found to be allowable because none of the cited references and the prior art of record either alone or in combination discloses the subject matter of the claimed invention.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL MAPA whose telephone number is (571)270-

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5540. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY TO THURSDAY 8:00AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dwayne Bost can be reached on (571)272-7023. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael Mapa/
Examiner, Art Unit 2617

/Erika A. Gary/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2617